

clearly define the invention.


An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encls.

- Un-Marked Version of the Claims as Amended

CLAIMS

1. A recombinant nucleotide sequence identified as SEQ ID 1 that encodes a protein
5 sequence corresponding to a metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor from *Hirudo medicinalis*.

2. (Amended) A polypeptide sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence
according to claim 1, wherein it comprises the sequence identified as SEQ ID N° 2 of the list of
sequences.

3. A polypeptide sequence according to claim 2, wherein such sequence is
homologous to the sequence identified as SEQ N° 2.

4. A nucleotide sequence that comprises a coding sequence of a polypeptide
15 homologous to the sequence ID N° 2 according to claim 2.

5. (Amended) A prokaryotic or eukaryotic expression vector wherein it
comprises the recombinant nucleotide sequence of claim 1, and in that it is able to express the
biologically active metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor.

6. (Amended) A transformed *Escherichia coli* cell wherein it comprises an
expression vector according to claim 5 and in that it is able to produce the biologically active
metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor.

7. (Amended) A procedure to prepare a recombinant metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor identified as SEQ ID 2 according to claim 2, wherein it comprises

(i) the culture of the transformant that contains an expression vector capable of expressing a biologically active metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor; and

5 (ii) its obtention and purification.

8. (Amended) A procedure according to claim 7 wherein the recombinant process takes place in a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host.

10 9. (Amended) A metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor according to claim 2, as fibrinolytic agent.

10. (Amended) Use of the metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor according to claim 2, to prepare a drug useful as fibrinolytic agent.

15 11. Use of the metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor according to claim 10, in combination with other fibrinolytic agents which it complements or enhances, to prepare a drug useful as fibrinolytic agent.

20 12. A pharmaceutical composition that comprises, as active agent, an effective quantity of a metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor identified as SEQ ID 2, or its derivatives, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

13. (New) A prokaryotic or eukaryotic expression vector wherein it comprises the recombinant nucleotide sequence of claim 2, and in that it is able to express the biologically active metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor.

5 14. (New) A prokaryotic or eukaryotic expression vector wherein it comprises the recombinant nucleotide sequence of claim 3, and in that it is able to express the biologically active metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor.

10 15. (New) A prokaryotic or eukaryotic expression vector wherein it comprises the recombinant nucleotide sequence of claim 4, and in that it is able to express the biologically active metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor.

16. (New) A procedure to prepare a recombinant metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor identified as SEQ ID 2 according to claim 3, wherein it comprises

15 (i) the culture of the transformant that contains an expression vector capable of expressing a biologically active metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor; and
(ii) its obtention and purification.

20 17. (New) A metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor according to claim 3, as fibrinolytic agent.

18. (New) Use of the metallocarboxypeptidase inhibitor according to claim 3, to prepare a drug useful as fibrinolytic agent.